

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Long ago, woman is only famous for her role as a housewife, a wife to her husband and a mother to her children and most of her activities are only in the kitchen. Now, women can get higher education, career and healthy competition in the work world with other women, even with men. And because of that, now women has important role in a society, even in the country.

Modernity and globalization are increasingly supporting the existence of the expanding role of women. Achievements and the skills that have been shown by women during this time. It is supposed that between women and men are not available widely difference. Those achievements and skills can be seen from the condition that, many women become leaders in an organization or a leader in a company. The strength of rigidity, firmness and accuracy in making decision is characteristic of the woman and a condition in his leadership. The burdens and responsibilities of woman in her life are bigger than men. Dual roles of a woman today, in addition to having responsibility as a housewife at home and as a career woman outside, and those role are reflected by Penny Chenery in Secretariat movie.

Feminism is the political movement that aims to liberate women. “Feminism is a political directed at changing existing power relation between women and men in society” (Weedon in Mandell, 1995: 4). “Feminism is the struggle about women’s inequality with men in many aspect of life. The position of women and men in the society is the result of social factors and not natural ones” (Anderson, 1993: 9). Role has expanded altered, and broadened the definition of feminism that includes political, cultural, economic, sexual, racial, and ethnical dimensions.

Literary work is a product of human soul and reflection of human experience and knowledge. Everything that happens in our lives and the world phenomena could be an inspiration for an author to create a literary work, an author tries to bring the realities of life into a world of creation and provide the best literature work to the world. As one of literary works, film also deals with the closeness of life. It is directed by the director based on there and though views on the realities of life. Realities as a source of create a literary work can be learned from their social life or some even in their circumstances.

According to Angulo (2011) *Secretariat* is a 2010 biographical film produced by Walt Disney Pictures and Mayhem Pictures, and directed by Randal Wallace. The film chronicles the life of thoroughbred race horse Secretariat, winner of the Triple Crown in 1973. The film opened in third place at the box office in its opening weekend, grossing \$4 million on opening day and

\$12,694,770 over the three-day weekend. The film had an average of \$4,132 from 3,072 locations. In its second weekend, the film held extremely well with only a 27% slide to \$9.3 million and finishing fourth for a \$3,032 average from 3,072 theaters. It then held up even better in its third weekend, slipping only 25% to just over \$7 million and finishing sixth for a \$2,254 average from 3,108 theaters. The film was a relative box office success, grossing \$60 million by the end of its run.

This film tells about the struggle of women in developing a horse racing when the horse racing almost bankrupt. Horse racing is the world of men. No woman could enter this world until Penny Chenery ventured into the world that is totally strange for her. Not only able to enter the male domination but Penny Chenery also successful in delivering her horse to be the most legendary horse in the United States. Penny is not only a horse owner, she is also a wife and mother of four children. Penny is an exemplary woman and a fantastic role model. She balances her responsibilities as a mother, wife, and daughter with great delicacy and concern, always trying to do what's best for her entire family, even when it means being temporarily separated from her children. She follows her heart to save her family's farm and is a pioneering woman in the horse breeding and racing world. *Secretariat* movie is an inspiring story of how she intertwined the two different aspects of her life.

The film begins with Penny learning of her mother's death and returning to her childhood home. At her mother's funeral, Penny meets Arthur "Bull" Hancock

and his son, Seth Hancock, of Claiborne Farm in Kentucky. The Hancocks offer to Penny any help she may need during her efforts to bring *Meadow Stables* back to profitability. Penny's brother Hollis informs her of a bad and dishonest sale that was about to be made by the trainer until their mother stopped him. Penny deposes the trainer and asks Bull Hancock to help her find a new trainer. He recommends Lucien Lauren, an aging French Canadian, who initially turns down Penny's offer.

Penny's father had made a deal with leading owner Ogden Phipps that if he would breed his best stallion (Bold Ruler) with Penny's two best mares (Somethingroyal and Hasty Matilda) that when the mares were close to term they would flip a coin to see who got which foal. Bold Ruler, the stallion was fast but couldn't last over distances. Hasty Matilda was the obvious choice due to her young age, but Somethingroyal's bloodline was made up of many horses with good stamina. Penny hopes to win and choose Somethingroyal's foal due to the interesting mix of speed and stamina. Phipps picks Hasty Matilda and Penny wins Somethingroyal's foal, Secretariat.

When Big Red enters his first race at Aqueduct race track in Queens, New York, everyone has high expectations. During the race, Red repeatedly is hit. First when he comes out of the gate, and repeatedly in the pack and on the rail. Big Red comes in 4th due to running like he was afraid of the other horses due to their hitting. Penny and Lucien fight and Lucien blames Paul for the loss. Penny realizes the only way Big Red could ever win if he had an experienced jockey.

Penny's flight back home is canceled on the day of the race and she misses her daughter Kate's solo in the play. Her son holds up the pay phone so Penny can hear her sing. The scene closes with Penny covering part of the phone and crying over missing important parts of her children's lives.

Penny gets experience jockey Ron Turcotte to ride Big Red who leads him to many victories. Secretariat is named horse of the year after a successful two year old year, but all the colts of Bold Ruler can not handle the distances that three year olds run. Penny's father suffers a stroke and dies, leaving Penny and her brother Hollis to inherit the estate. Penny needs six million dollars to pay estate taxes, but refuses to sell Secretariat.

Instead she syndicates Big Red, selling 32 shares worth more than six million dollars, as long as he can win a three year old distance race. She tries to sell a share to Ogden Phipps, who instead offers to buy Big Red for eight million dollars. Penny refuses to sell him. When Phipps demands to know why, she tells him Big Red's value will triple when he wins the Triple Crown a feat no horse has accomplished in twenty five years. Big Red is taken to the Wood Memorial three weeks before the first of the Triple Crown races to take on Sham and attempt to earn Penny her syndication money. Ronnie notices Big Red 's breathing is heavy and he refuses to eat, and is reluctant to allow the bit into his mouth. Red loses the race, after which it's discovered he has an abscess which may have caused the loss.

Red recovers and wins the Derby and Preakness in record time, then wins the Belmont by 31 lengths (over 82 yards (75 m)) to secure the Triple Crown.

Secretariat movie was directed by Randall Wallace. According to Goodwyn (2009) he is an American screenwriter, director, producer, and songwriter who came to prominence by writing the screenplay for the 1995 film *Braveheart*. His work on the film earned him an Oscar nomination for Best Original Screenplay and a Writers Guild of America award for Best Screenplay Adapted Directly for the Screen. His other films include *The Man in the Iron Mask*, *Pearl Harbor*, *We Were Soldiers*, and *Secretariat*. Wallace began writing stories at the age of seven. Wallace graduated from E.C. Glass High School in Lynchburg, Virginia, where he was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity. He gained recognition and commercial success by penning the screenplay for *Braveheart* (1995). *Braveheart* became Wallace's first produced screenplay when it drew the interest of director and star Mel Gibson, and ended up as the film success story of 1995, earning the Academy Award for Best Picture and Best Director and garnering Oscar and Golden Globe nominations as well as the Writers Guild Award for Best Screenplay for Wallace. Wallace made his directorial debut with his own screenplay in *The Man in the Iron Mask*. This was followed by Wallace's second film as director *We Were Soldiers*. Wallace is also the *New York Times* bestselling author of seven novels and the lyricist of the acclaimed hymn "Mansions of the Lord".

Secretariat is a good and educational film especially for women, there are four reasons why the researcher interest to study this film. First, *Secretariat* is an inspiring movie, this film is very interesting because it is an inspirational true story of the greatest racehorse, the true story of a woman who struggle to spur horse into a great horse, moreover she is also a housewife, and it can be imagined how difficult running that dual roles, but Penny Chenery can run those two functions well.

Second, this movie gives educational aspect to the viewers dealing with the life of woman in the film if they are able to understand the content of this film. From whole film, it has been told that the spirit and struggle of Penny Chenery brings the secretariat become the greatest racehorse. She gives a reflection of a very strong and realistic woman. Spirit as it gives its own value to the viewer of the meaning of a struggle, perseverance and tenacity.

Third, the film is good to educate children in a family. There is no use of filthy language and no scene that not good, and the most important is the spirit of Penny cherry that never Give up, so it can be used as an example to anyone who watch the film.

The last reason is the characterization in this movie is very strong. In each event that happened in this movie reflected the positive and negative side of each

character. It can be seen from their behavior, and then from how did they face and solve their conflicts.

Based on the explanation above, the writer interested to analyze *Secretariat* (2010) movie by using feminist theory. In this study the writer encourage herself to give a title **WOMAN'S ROLE IN *SECRETARIAT* (2010) DIRECTED BY RANDALL WALLACE: A FEMINIST APPROACH**

B. Literature Review

There are some analyses about feminist approach in some other works of literature, but the researcher has not found any research that has been conducted on *Secretariat* movie Directed by Randall Wallace especially in Surakarta Region and at least at UMS and UNS.

C. Problem Statement

The problem of the study is:” How Woman’s Role which is reflected in *Secretariat* directed by Randall Wallace?”

D. Scope of the Study

The writer focuses this research in analyzing Woman’s Role is reflected in *Secretariat* directed by Randall Wallace.

E. Objective of the Study

The objectives of the study are:

1. To analyze the film based on the structural elements.

2. To analyze the film based on the feminist approach.

F. Benefits of the Study

The benefits expected from the study are as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefit

To develop the body of knowledge, particularly the literary studies on *Secretariat* directed by Randall Wallace.

2. Practical Benefit

This study is expected to enrich the researcher's understanding about the film and the application of the theory in the analysis.

G. Research Method

I. Object of the Study

The object of the study is *Secretariat* film directed by Randall Wallace and produced by Walt Disney Pictures and Mayhem Pictures.

2 Type of The Study

In analyzing Randall Wallace's *Secretariat*, the researcher uses qualitative research.

3. Type of The Data and The Data Source

a. Primary data

The primary data source is the movie script itself. Directed by Randall Wallace and produced by Walt Disney Pictures and Mayhem Pictures.

b. Secondary data

The secondary data are taken from other sources, which relate with the primary data such as the biography of the author, essay, comments, website about movie and many other relevant information as the data source.

4. Technique of The Data Collection

The method of data collection is documentation. In this research, the document is the *Secretariat* movie script and the director's biography. And then the steps of data collection are:

- a. Collecting the Video Compact Disc of *Secretariat* movie and then watching the movie repeatedly and carefully to get the best understanding messages, ideas and other significance points as well as its structure elements.
- b. Collecting of *Secretariat* movie script and synopsis by browsing the internet.
- c. Reading some relevant books to get the theory to analyze the movie.
- d. Taking the significance data, then write some notes of the important part of sources and then writing the data.

- e. Classifying the data into groups according to the category of elements of literary study.

5. Technique of The Data Analysis

The technique used in analyzing the data is descriptive analysis. It concerns with structural element of the movie and feminist approach.

H. Paper Organization.

To give clear understanding of the contents of this study, the writer has appointed the presentation of the study. The presentation of this study consists of six chapters. Chapter I deal with introduction dealing with cover, background of the study, problem statement, literature review, limitation of the study, objectives of the study, benefits of the study, research method and paper organization. Chapter II deal with underlying theory containing the description of the theory of feminism used to analyze the movie. Chapter III deal with social background of American society in the early of twenty first century. Chapter IV deals with structural analysis containing the structural elements of the film and discussion. Chapter V presents feminist analysis. Chapter VI is conclusion and suggestion.